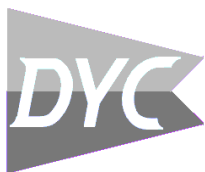


RANGE MARKS

Official Newsletter of the Dahlgren Yacht Club

<http://www.nswc.navy.mil/C2/dyc/>



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Joe Futch (540) 663-2861

MWR Representative

Craig Ulrich (540) 653-7259

From the Commodore:

Spring is finally here! The leaves on the trees are green, the flowers are blooming, the birds are back singing and nest building, and most of the DYC boats are now in the water ready for the remainder of the boating season. The racing season has begun and several members are fishing as well. All is good on Machodoc Creek and the Potomac River this time of year. However, please be aware that the water temperatures are still in the 50's and can pose a real threat of hypothermia if one were to fall overboard.

The Capitol Improvement Finance Committee has been meeting and is ready to show the Board of Governors how DYC really can begin construction of the new bathhouse this fall. More details will be forthcoming.

Several social events are scheduled in the near future. This is an excellent time for all club members to get together and discuss current and future events. All club members are cordially invited to attend all club social events. DYC will be participating in the Potomac River Festival at Colonial Beach Saturday June 9, 2001 with a sailboat races scheduled for the morning and afternoon. Consult the web site for more details.

See you on the water soon!

Tom Owen

Cruising

Members of DYC will be cruising to Tall Timbers on Memorial Day weekend. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dave Bowen at 540-775-7249 for more information.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 26-28 Tall Timbers Cruise

June 9 Potomac River Festival Race

June 18 PHRF Dock Party

June 23 Centerboard Regatta

April 16 marked the first race of the Dahlgren Yacht Club (DYC) racing season. Monday's race was the PHRF Spring Low Point Series race #1. Conditions for the race were cloudy initially with a 3 knot breeze from the north. Thirty minutes into the race the clouds moved off to the northeast allowing the sun to come back out making for a beautiful sunset. The 4 boats at the start were Ol'Blue, Melee, Frigate, and Honey-Do. The 5:01 pm start went off without a hitch, with all skippers adjusting to the new starting sequence admirably. Monday's race course was TB, a 5.33 nautical mile triangular course. The race was uneventful due to the light wind conditions and the first leg of the race was a downwind leg. Melee picked up where she left off last season by nailing the start and being first over the line, with the rest of the fleet following in close pursuit. After an hour and half of racing and with Ol' Blue in the lead, the light breeze dropped down to no breeze and race course was shorten by 1.7 nautical mile. Unfortunately for all the participants, the race had to be officially abandoned when none of the competitors was able to complete the race in the maximum allotted time. While it was disappointing to abandon the race, everyone enjoyed the time spent on the water and a valuable lesson on course selection was learned by the race committee.

April 23 marked the second race of the Dahlgren Yacht Club (DYC) racing season. Monday's race was the PHRF Spring Low Point Series race #2. Conditions were beautiful and sunny at the start with a S-SW breeze at 6-10 kt. The 7 boats at the start were Ol'Blue, Melee, Frigate, Honey-Do, Radio Flyer, Destiny, and Night Moose. The 1657 start went off without a hitch with no boats over early. Monday's racecourse was TA, a 3.77 nautical mile triangular course. The race started with Ol'Blue in the lead on the first leg with Frigate, Melee, and Night Moose closely following. Both Melee and Night Moose didn't make the first mark, tacked away, and got tangled up like a "bunch of buggers" at the mark costing dearly by at least a finishing place or two. Ol'Blue led to the second mark but had to douse their spinnaker midway when it became unruly. Frigate gained and rounded first followed by Ol'Blue and then Radio Flyer who had been coming up from behind like a freight train. The third leg was a reaching drag race to the finish and first over the line was Radio Flyer followed by Frigate and Ol'Blue. Once handicap corrections were applied, the top finishing places were 1st Ol'Blue, 2nd Frigate and 3rd Radio Flyer.

April 30 marked the third race of the Dahlgren Yacht Club (DYC) racing season. Monday's race was the PHRF Spring Low Point Series race #3. Conditions were beautiful, sunny, and windy at the start with a strong S-SE breeze at 8-14 kt. The 9 boats at the start were Radio Flyer, Ol'Blue, Melee, Night Moose, Blue Heaven, All-Ridy-Then, Dionysus, Honey-Do, and Destiny. The 1710 start was flawed with Ol'Blue and Blue Heaven over early. Monday's racecourse was TA[2], a 2 lap 7.53 nautical mile triangular course. The race started with all boats close-hauled beating out towards the channel and the first mark, "29". The second leg was a reach in towards the second mark followed by a spinnaker run on the third leg roughly paralleling the shore. After completing the 1st lap and rounding the pin, all boats repeated the course for the second lap. Several rigging mistakes, minor gear failures, and mishaps were reported along with the standard bruises, scrapes, and cuts typical for the conditions. In the end, first over the line was Radio Flyer followed by Melee, All-Ridy-Then, Night Moose, and Ol'Blue. Once handicap corrections were applied, the top finishing places were 1st Radio-Flyer, 2nd Melee and 3rd Ol'Blue.

DOCK MASTER

Thanks to everyone who helped out at the Work Day. We put the boat house back in working order and got things cleaned up. A special thanks to Bruce and Lee for providing the food.

If any new slip holders need help with their docklines, please ask for help. Some boats have not been properly moored. Remember you are responsible for any damage caused by your boat.

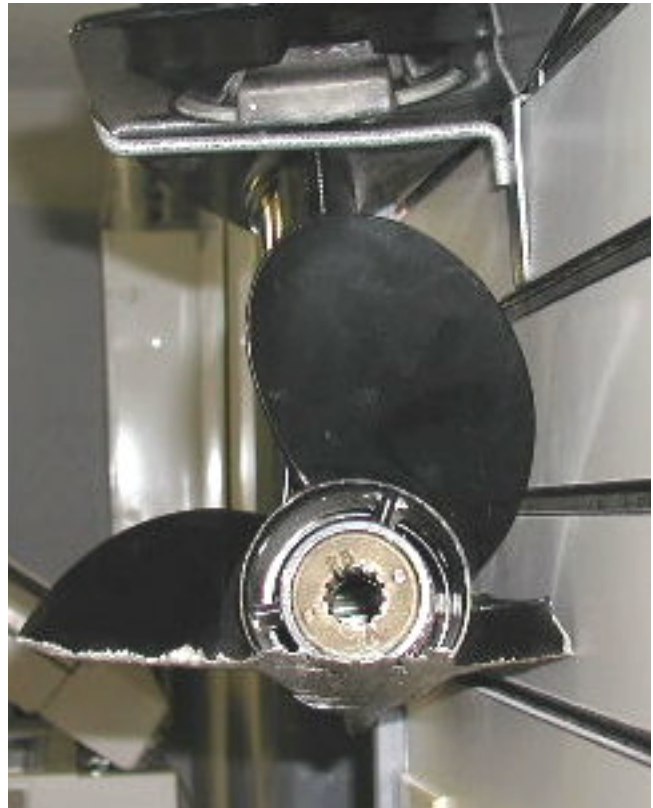
Training and Seamanship

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary will be providing Vessel Safety Checks at DYC on June 16 from 0900 until 1300.

Any members or members knowing persons who are interested in a novice sailing course to be held this summer, please contact the safety/seamanship governor, Joe, at 663-2861. Nominal fees will apply. Boat ownership not required. Course will be part textbook, part on the water, on keelboats.

What happened !!!!!

This picture is in desperate need of a caption. The two best suggestions will win a DYC drink huggie. Email your entries dyc@nswc.navy.mil or snail mail to DYC PO Box 90, Dahlgren VA 22448. Winning entries will be announced in a future issue of Range Marks.

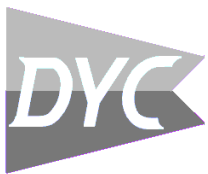


For Sale by Members

24' Seafarer '74, sleeps 5, standing headroom, VHF, depth, knots, stereo, 5 sails, 9.9 electric start Evinrude, 2 speed winches. \$4000, located Upper Machodoc Creek, Potomac River. Call 540-663-2861 for more information.

*DYC will be hosting two races in Colonial Beach
as part of the Potomac River Festival on June 9, 2001.
The races are scheduled for 1000 and 1200.
Come out and enjoy all the festivities and watch your
favorite DYC racers from the beach.*

*US Coast Guard Auxiliary
Vessel Safety Checks
June 16 from 0900 until 1300
at DYC*



*Dahlgren Yacht Club
Code C25H
PO Box 90
Dahlgren VA 22448*